

College of Staten Island English 111 Essay Sequence

ASSIGNMENT	LENGTH	DESCRIPTION	RATIONALE
Reflective Narrative	3-4 double-spaced pages (750-1000 words)	A narrative that details a specific personal experience or set of personal experiences that connects to the course theme/focus.	The purpose of this assignment is to give you practice exploring the course theme from a personal perspective, drawing on your own knowledge and experience as support.
Critical Analysis	4-5 double-spaced pages (1000-1250 words)	A summary and rhetorical analysis of a linguistic or visual text. The analysis should offer an evaluation of the text's argument and evidence in light of the text's specific rhetorical situation.	The purpose of this essay is to give you practice summarizing and analyzing a single text while also exploring further the course theme.
Weighing In	6-7 double-spaced pages (1500-1750 words)	An essay that summarizes two sources speaking to the course theme and then puts these sources in conversation with one's own personal ideas and perspectives.	The purpose of this essay is to expand on the skills you practiced in the first two assignments. You will gain further practice summarizing others' claims and evidence and then you will situate your own thoughts and ideas in relation to others' ideas.
Rewind and Re-envision	3-4 double-spaced pages (750-1000 words)	A two-part assignment in which one of the three previous assignments is re-envisioned in a new genre and for a different audience. This re-envisioned text is accompanied by a written reflection that describes the audience, purpose, and genre of the re-envisioned text.	The purpose of this assignment is to invite you to think critically about the ways in which audience and purpose impact what we say and how we say it. This assignment also gives you the chance to creatively design your own text in a genre of your choice. When finished, you will submit two texts: the re-envisioned text and a 3-4 page written reflection.